I’m delighted to report that since I wrote in the last newsletter, developments for our Association have been rapid. Our collaboration with Martin Gardner from the Royal Botanic Garden in Edinburgh has proceeded far more quickly that I could have imagined. There’s more information inside from Conrad, and I’m sure that we’ll be able to report even more progress about this exciting venture at our Christmas Luncheon on December 3rd which is being held at Greenhills (see enclosed flyer). I’m extremely grateful to Lord and Lady Brownlow for kindly permitting a members’ visit around their Maison des Pres garden before the lunch. It really does promise to be an exciting day, especially as His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor will be planting a rare Eucalyptus in the Arboretum earlier on the same day. I do hope that many of you will be able to come along to at least one of these exciting events on December 3rd.

Adelina celebration...

A very special event this year was the celebration of the 10th anniversary of Adelina Wood. It was very pleasing to see so many members and friends enjoying the party. The day was made extra special by seeing Enid so happy.

Our plans for the year ahead...

Following the AGM, the new committee has been working hard on addressing the priorities for the Association which are to continue developing both the Val de la Mare Arboretum and the Jersey Hedgerow Campaign. We also see the need to become more active with regard to tree protection following several recent cases of, in our opinion, wanton destruction of some of the Island’s mature trees.

="It was a wonderful day; the weather was lovely. I felt very rewarded by peoples’ interest. It really is starting to look like a proper wood now and I’m delighted at how it’s being enjoyed by a variety of people especially children”

-Mrs Enid Gautier, the inspiration behind Adelina Wood

In This Issue
- Conifer Conservation
- Education
- Jersey Hedgerow Campaign
- Tree Protection
- Val de la Mare Update

Members enjoying Adelina Wood’s 10th birthday party celebrations
Val de la Mare Update

Conrad reports...

It has been a very busy summer and autumn!

This year we have managed to find sponsors for all zones in the Val de la Mare Arboretum with the exception of the Conifer Zone; however we have a potential patron for the beginning of 2015. If any member is interested in sponsoring a zone, please get in touch! **Many thanks to our generous current sponsors who are also members.**

The trees in the collection will benefit from the goodwill of a local tree surgeon. This anonymous benefactor is giving his time free of charge, one day per month, in order to prune trees that are crowding out the exotic trees. This will mean the special trees will be able to fill out and grow into better specimens.

Another great milestone is the arrival of just over 150 tree labels for the arboretum. It has taken a couple of years and many visits by a number of tree experts to properly identify the trees. The tree labels also show planting dates, countries of origin etc. The collation of this information for other specimens is ongoing and more tree labels will be added in due course. Advice for interpreting the tree labels can be found on our website. To date, the labels for the Australasian and American Zones have been produced as well as for some of the native and naturalised trees that are found growing in and around the zones. Popularity of the arboretum continues to increase and word of its existence has spread to France! Contact was made by a French agricultural study group from Mayenne (between Rennes and Le Mans) asking for a conducted tour. In the event, 40 students and 4 teachers turned up on bicycles and enjoyed a brief tour of the zones.

Our patron, **H.E. The Lieutenant Governor**, has kindly agreed to plant a rare Eucalyptus in the Arboretum on December 3rd. This planting will celebrate the arrival of several rare tree species, including the Dorrigo White Gum and the Wallangarra White Gum **which will be the only examples in Europe**. The occasion coincides with the Arboretum becoming an important tree conservation site as part of the "Threatened Conifers of the World" project for which the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh is providing us with 11 rare conifers that include 6 different species. One, a juniper, from Cuba was grown from the seed of one of only 50 plants that survive in the wild. We'll also be planting specimens provided by the National Pinetum, Bedgebury. **If you'd like to attend the planting on December 3rd, please complete the relevant section on the Christmas Luncheon reply slip.**

Anne Haden reports...

A survey of the plants found at Val de la Mare has revealed that there is a wide range of plant species to be found. Especially interesting are the ferns in the Wingnut section where many *Dryopteris felix-mas* Male Fern and *Dropteris borreri* Borrer’s Male Fern thrive in the shady areas. In the damp section near the main path *Silene flos-cuculi* Ragged Robin can still be seen. *Juncus effuses* Soft Rush and *Mentha aquatica* Water Mint also grow in the damp area. The Arboretum contains a range of habitats and these support a variety of plants which in turn support many different invertebrates. For a full species list of all the plants found in the Arboretum please visit the web site.
Education

Michel reports...

Autumn presents a good opportunity to explain to our youngsters how important our trees are, and how surprising they can be. Younger children are fascinated to see the range of bright colours on leaves rather than the expected green; they also love having a go at seeing how high they can throw a sycamore seed! Seeds, nuts, twigs and dying leaves on the ground also gives the promise of a fruitful mini-beast hunt. This autumn some pupils from First Tower School collected the biggest spiders I've ever seen in one of our collecting pots!

JTFL has run educational activities in St. Andrew’s Park, Adelina Wood and the Forgotten Forest (Val de la Mare Arboretum) during the past few weeks and pupils from Trinity, St. Lawrence, Bel Royal and First Tower schools have taken part.

“The children really enjoyed collecting and identifying different leaves. They were fascinated by the variety of mini-beasts that could be found in a small area.”

Sophie Taylor, First Tower Year 4 teacher.

Members Events

Coming up...

Nov 30th:
Adelina Wood Walk
National Tree Week (29th November—7th December)

Dec 3rd:
H.E. Lt. Gov. Tree planting,
Members’ garden visit and Christmas Luncheon

July 23rd 2015:
Provisional Date for AGM

KPMG staff helping out with a maintenance task during the summer

Jersey Hedgerow Campaign

Special mention must be made of the fantastic support that we have received over the past 2 years from Radisson Blu Hotel. They agreed to support our work in the autumn of 2012 and this assistance has been in the form of help in the field by planting and maintaining their work as well as raising awareness of staff, guests and residents.

The Hotel has also helped financially by asking their residents to pay an extra pound per night of their stay as well as staff-lead events for fund raising.

Following their hard work, they planted a total of 300 metres of hedging comprising nearly 400 hedging whips and trees. They also carried out a number of maintenance sessions and have helped to clear around nearly a kilometre for recently planted hedgerow. This has been a great help.

“We have thoroughly enjoyed the activities in the field and therefore I would like to keep the option open to help out planting trees and maintaining the woodlands. The team likes to get involved and it would be a pleasure to organize another outdoor activity with you in 2015.”

Sven Wiltink, Radisson Blu Hotel

DID YOU KNOW? We’ve planted as far as Jersey to France!
Since the 2007/08 planting season, we’ve planted 33,406 whips in our Jersey Hedgerow Campaign. That’s equivalent to a single hedgerow 25 km or 15 1/2 miles long!
Thank you...

To all our supporters including RUBiS card holders, Mrs Ling, Mr Perkins, donors in memory of Mrs Falle and Mr R Wilkinson, Radisson Blu, the Lions Club of Jersey and Mrs Ingrid Billet.

We'd also like to thank all our sponsors at the Forgotten Forest Arboretum.

La Maison des Pres garden visit will take place immediately before the Annual Christmas Luncheon (details on enclosed menu). Please be sure to indicate your attendance on the reply menu sheet if you'd like to come along.

We are kindly invited by Lord and Lady Brownlow to tour their garden, which is adjacent to Greenhills Hotel.

The Brownlows purchased the property in 1983 and have since made considerable changes to the grounds, initially removing redundant Cupressocyparis leylandii and establishing vital and attractive evergreen and deciduous windbreak hedging to protect new borders planted with choice shrubs. The original small garden surrounding the house was extended when fields to the south and west were incorporated and planted with many ornamental trees including Metasequoia glyptostroboides and Taxodium distichum. A fine roadside row of tilia petiolaris was planted in 1984, a wildlife pond dug in 1985 and in 2000 an orchard of many fruit varieties was added. Behind the house we find an elegant formal box garden. Many trees in the borders, including Koelrutia paniculata and Acnistus australis, have been grown from seed by the Brownlows.

Full of surprises, this garden is sure to charm the visitor, even during winter.

Tree Protection

An important aim of Jersey Trees for Life is to protect trees and we are often asked to assist when trees are threatened. Recent cases:

Springfield Stadium:
Trees under threat from pitch replacement. Representation made to Planners, and recommendation for Tree Protection Orders on existing trees at Oxford Road entrance.

Villa Nuova, Route de la Haule:
Unusual mature red maple under threat from development of site. Representation to Planners, Planning Permit now refused, but tree not protected as considered insufficiently visible from road. Tree still threatened.

Union Street:
30 year old trees removed by TTS without warning amid claims of damage to pavements and road (not obvious). St Helier parish not informed. JTfL making high level representations to avoid similar cases in future.

If you feel trees are under threat please contact the JTfL office, however little can be done if unprotected trees are cut on private land, outside of the bird-nesting season.

Contact Us

Don't forget Conrad is able to offer advice free of charge to members and any work carried out by us benefits from a 10% discount on labour charges for our members.

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Like us on

Subscriptions

Please be advised that for members who pay by cheque, these are now due. Cheques, for £25 should be made payable to Jersey Trees for Life.

For those who pay by standing order, kindly check that, in January, the correct payment of £25 has been made. If you have any queries about standing order payments, please don’t hesitate to get in touch.

For those who would prefer to pay by internet banking, our details are:

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